

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

¹
~~2.~~ (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:~~

A method of replacing a fan module during operation of an electronic apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

instructing a replacement of the fan module;

controlling a fan drive voltage supplied to the fan module;

turning off the fan drive voltage when the replacement is instructed; and

confirming a state where a plurality of fan modules are installed, wherein

the controlling step includes the step of controlling the fan drive voltage ~~not to be~~ supplied to a fan module to be replaced if the replacement of a fan module is instructed during the state where the plurality of fan modules are installed.

²

~~3.~~ (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:~~

A method of replacing a fan module during operation of an electronic apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

instructing a replacement of the fan module;

controlling a fan drive voltage supplied to the fan module;

turning off the fan drive voltage when the replacement is instructed;

starting a timer count operation at a time when the fan drive voltage ~~is controlled-~~
~~not to be~~ supplied to a fan module is controlled; and

alerting an operator when a timer count value of the time count operation
reaches a specified value.

4 - 6. (Canceled)

3
7.

(Currently Amended)

~~The apparatus according to claim 6, further~~

comprising:

An electronic apparatus capable of replacing a fan module during operation,

comprising:

means for instructing a replacement of the fan module;

means for controlling a fan drive voltage that turns off the fan drive voltage
supplied to a fan module to be replaced when the replacement is instructed; and

means for detecting a state where a plurality of fan modules is installed, wherein
the controlling means includes means for controlling the fan drive voltage ~~not to-~~
be supplied to a fan module to be replaced if the replacement of a fan module is
instructed during the state where the plurality of fan modules are installed.

4
8.

(Original)

The apparatus according to claim ³~~7~~, wherein the plurality of

fan modules implement redundancy.

9 - 10. (Canceled)

5

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:~~

An electronic apparatus capable of replacing a fan module during operation,

comprising:

means for instructing a replacement of the fan module;

means for controlling a fan drive voltage that turns off the fan drive voltage supplied to the fan module to be replaced when the replacement is instructed;

means for starting a timer count operation at a time when the fan drive voltage is controlled not to be supplied to a fan module to be replaced is controlled; and

means for alerting an operator when a timer count value of the timer count operation reaches a specified value.

6

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:~~

An electronic apparatus capable of replacing a fan module during operation,

comprising:

means for instructing a replacement of the fan module;

means for controlling a fan drive voltage that turns off the fan drive voltage supplied to the fan module to be replaced when the replacement is instructed; and

means for indicating that the replacement is possible after the fan drive voltage is ~~controlled not to be supplied to a fan module to be replaced~~ is controlled.

13 - 16. (Canceled)

13
17.

(Currently Amended)

~~The apparatus according to claim 16, further-~~

comprising:

An electronic apparatus capable of replacing a fan module during operation,

comprising:

a relay cable coupled to the fan module for transmitting a fan drive voltage and
capable of being disconnected from or connected or to the fan module;

means for instructing a replacement of the fan module;

means for controlling a fan drive voltage via the relay cable that turns off the fan
drive voltage supplied to the fan module to be replaced when the replacement is
instructed; and

means for detecting a state where a plurality of fan modules is installed, wherein
the controlling means includes means for controlling the fan drive voltage ~~not to~~
~~be~~ supplied to a fan module to be replaced if the replacement of a fan module is
instructed during the state where the plurality of fan modules are installed.

18.

(Currently Amended)

~~The apparatus according to claim 16, further-~~

comprising:

An electronic apparatus capable of replacing a fan module during operation,
comprising:
a relay cable coupled to the fan module for transmitting a fan drive voltage and
capable of being disconnected from or connected to the fan module;
means for instructing a replacement of the fan module;
means for controlling a fan drive voltage via the relay cable that turns off the fan
drive voltage supplied to the fan module to be replaced when the replacement is
instructed;
means for starting a timer count operation at a time when the fan drive voltage is-
controlled not to be supplied to a fan module to be replaced is controlled; and
means for alerting an operator when a timer count value of the timer count
operation reaches a specified value.
